

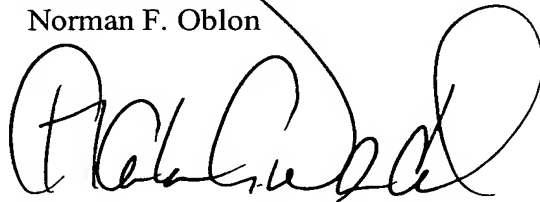
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies and to read in more conventional U.S. patent format.

An early examination of Claims 1-8 is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.  
Norman F. Oblon

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Charles A. Wendel', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive.

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(OSMMN 06/04)

NFO:CW\la